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FM AMEMBASSY DHAKA
TO RUEHC/SECSTATE WASHDC 3935
INFO RUEHNE/AMEMBASSY NEW DELHI 9866
RUEHIL/AMEMBASSY ISLAMABAD 1625
RUEHKT/AMEMBASSY KATHMANDU 9063
RUEHGO/AMEMBASSY RANGOON 2535
RUEHLM/AMEMBASSY COLOMBO 7902
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TAGS: [ECON](#) [ETRD](#) [KPIR](#) [BG](#)
SUBJECT: BANGLADESH SPECIAL 301 2007

REF: SECSTATE 56065

Classified By: DCM GEETA PASI FOR REASON 1.4(d)

¶1. (U) POSITIVE RESPONSE TO DEMARCHE. Econoff delivered reftel demarche to Abida Islam, Director of America and Pacific Wing, Ministry of Foreign Affairs on April 30. Ms. Islam acknowledged the expressed USG intent to increase engagement on Intellectual Property Rights (IPR) issues and agreed with Econoff's suggestion to convene a meeting of GOB IPR stakeholders with Econoff and IPR industry representatives in the near future.

¶2. (C) BROADER GOB REACTION ON SPECIAL 301. In a previous conversation with Econoff, Mesbah Uddin, Registrar of the Department of Patents, Designs and Trademarks said he was actually hoping for Bangladesh to be listed on the Special 301 watch lists. Uddin said that if Bangladesh were listed it would draw attention to the IPR situation in Bangladesh and might result in his office getting the resources needed to take action.

¶3. (C) COMMENT. GOB resources tend to be allocated on a 'first-crisis, first-served basis', as reflected in the Registrar's statement, but there does seem to be unity of desire at least between the IPR industry and the IPR sectors of the GOB (specifically Patents, Designs and Trademarks as well as Copyrights) to address the issue. The IPR industry representatives may even have some resources to contribute similar to the information already provided in the Special 301 process. The next step is to coordinate effective enforcement of IPR by the law enforcement agencies.
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